

Message Text

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SPANISH AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO THE U.S., JAIME ALBA, HAS PROVIDED UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF REMARKS WHICH HE INTENDS TO MAKE ON PRESENTATION OF HIS LETTER OF CREDENCE TO PRESIDENT WEEK OF AUGUST 5 (REFTEL). AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE ALBA CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT HE WILL DEPART FROM MADRID AUGUST 5 VIA IB 933 AT 1440 LOCAL TIME, ARRIVING AT BOSTON 1530 LOCAL TIME, LEAVING BOSTON 1630 AND ARRIVING AT DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT 1800 LOCAL TIME. TEXT OF AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS FOLLOW. BEGIN TEXT:

MR. PRESIDENT:

I HAVE THE GREAT HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT THE LETTER OF CREDENCE ACCREDITING ME AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF SPAIN TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

IN THE FIRST PLACE, I WOULD LIKE TO DEDICATE A FEW WORDS TO THE MEMORY OF MY DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR SAGAZ, WHO HAS LEFT US SO PREMATURELY. HIS EXCEPTIONALLY HUMANE PERSONALITY AND DIPLOMATIC TALENT CONCURRED TO MAKE HIM ONE OF THE BEST SPANISH AMBASSADORS OF OUR DAYS. IN CAIRO HE REPRESENTED DURING SEVERAL

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YEARS--TOGETHER WITH THE INTERESTS OF SPAIN--THOSE OF

THE UNITED STATES, IN A DIFFICULT PERIOD. THE REFERRED QUALITIES--WHICH HE AGAIN PROVED AS OUR AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON--PERMITTED HIM, DURING HIS MISSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, TO ACCOMPLISH THE EVACUATION OF A CERTAIN NUMBER OF REFUGEES, AND A FOREST IN ISRAEL--THE PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED--WILL FOREVER CARRY THE NAME OF AMBASSADOR SAGAZ, IN RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE FOR HIS DEDICATION TO HELP HUMAN BEINGS, A POLICY THAT SPAIN HAD ALREADY CARRIED OUT DURING THE TWO WORLD WARS. WHAT IN THIS SENSE WAS DONE IN INVADDED BELGIUM, BY KING ALFONSO XIII AND HIS AMBASSADOR, THE MARQUIS OF VILLALOBAR, IS ALSO COMMEMORATED WITH MONUMENTS ERECTED BY THE BELGIANS BOTH IN LIEGE AND IN BRUSSELS. AS FOR THE SECOND WORLD WAR, THE HUMANITARIAN ACTION UNDERTAKEN BY SPAIN, UNDER THE INSPIRATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE HEAD OF THE SPANISH STATE, APPEARS IN A MULTITUDE OF TEXTS PUBLISHED DURING THE LAST YEARS THAT PROVE ITS IMPORTANCE. MR. PRESIDENT,

AS YOU KNOW I AM NOT STRICTLY A NEWCOMER IN WASHINGTON. ON THE CONTRARY, I SPENT NEARLY FIVE YEARS HERE, OF WHICH I KEEP THE MOST PLEASANT MEMORIES, BOTH IN THE FAMILY ASPECT--WHICH IS ATTESTED BY FOUR OF MY GRANDCHILDREN BORN IN THE UNITED STATES--AS IN THE PROFESSIONAL ONE, BEING MINISTER COUNSELOR TO ANOTHER PARTICULARLY DISTINGUISHED AMBASSADOR, DURING A PERIOD OF TIME THAT VERY CLOSELY FOLLOWED THE 1953 AGREEMENTS, AND IN WHICH WE SUCCEEDED IN FINDING FORMULAS IN ORDER TO, IN A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COLLABORATION, DEVELOP SOME VERY IMPORTANT POINTS WHICH HAD INITIALLY NOT BEEN FORESEEN IN THOSE AGREEMENTS. THIS IN ITSELF EXPLAINS THE GRATEFUL AND HEARTFELT WELCOME THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY RECEIVED IN MADRID, AND WHICH WAS TENDERED PREVIOUSLY, DURING THE PERIOD THAT I SPENT IN WASHINGTON, TO PRESIDENT EISENHOWER--THE WORLD FAMOUS GENERAL AND SECOND WORLD WAR LEADER--IN THE PREPARATION OF WHOSE VISIT TO SPAIN I HAD THE HONOR TO COLLABORATE, TOGETHER WITH MY COLLEAGUES OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

THE NATURE OF SPANISH-AMERICAN PROBLEMS AND OF THE FRIENDLY COLLABORATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAS NOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDERGONE EVOLUTION AND WILL CERTAINLY HAVE TO DEVELOP IN NEW FRAMEWORKS AND VERY SPECIALLY IN THE ONE PROVIDED BY THE IMPORTANT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES SIGNED BY SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

IN ORDER TO BE BRIEF I SHALL ONLY UNDERLINE THE NECESSITY, ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE SAID DECLARATION, TO COORDINATE IN THE FUTURE THE SPANISH-AMERICAN DEFENSE STRUCTURE WITH THAT OF OTHER WESTERN NATIONS, AS WELL AS

THE FACT THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, MUST BE REFLECTED BOTH IN THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FIELDS--SPECIALLY AT THE PRESENT MOMENT OF A GENERAL EUROPEAN CRISIS THAT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY REFLECT ON SPAIN'S OWN ECONOMY. I WOULD ALSO WISH TO UNDERLINE THE NECESSITY TO INCREASE IN THE FUTURE THE SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS CONTAINED IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN AGREEMENTS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION THAT ARE TO BE NEGOTIATED, SINCE THIS TYPE OF COLLABORATION IN THE PAST HAS BEEN CLEARLY POSITIVE.

WITH REGARD TO THE CULTURAL ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONS, THE IMMINENT CELEBRATION OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, ALLOWS US TO RECALL ON THIS OCCASION NOT ONLY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT TENDERED BY SPAIN DURING YOUR WAR OF INDEPENDENCE, BUT ALSO THE FACT THAT SPAIN PROTAGONIZED THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA, BEING ALSO THE NATION WHICH FOUNDED THE OLDEST CITY IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE FIRST TO EXPLORE AND INTEGRATE INTO WESTERN CIVILIZATION THE WHOLE OF THE SOUTH AND THE WEST OF YOUR GREAT COUNTRY. IN RECENT YEARS, SPAIN HAS INCREASED HER EFFORTS TO COLLABORATE WITH THE OTHER NATIONS IN THE AMERICAN CONTINENT IN THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AS A CONTINUING ASPECT OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

PERMIT ME. MR PRESIDENT IN THE NAME OF THE HEAD OF THE SPANISH STATE, TO EXPRESS HIS MOST SINCERE WISHES FOR YOUR PERSONAL WELL-BEING AND THAT OF YOUR FAMILY, AND FOR THE PROSPERITY OF THE UNITED STATES.

WITH YOUR PERMISSION, ALLOW ME TO ADD TO THESE WISHES MY FERVENT DESIRE TO WORK IN THIS POST, AS I HAVE IN PREVIOUS ONES, FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND OUR TWO PEOPLES. END TEXT
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